

Our Focus



“What are we going to do, both individually and collectively, to Improve Access to Dental Treatment and Prevention strategies that address the oral health of the American Indian and Alaskan Native peoples?”



California
Dental Support
Center

**A program of
California Rural
Indian Health Board**

*Funded by grant from
Indian Health Services*

Goals of the Dental Support Center

To provide better dental care for our native American people through education and training.

Our goals in FY 2008 are:

1.) Clinic Level: to prevent caries in infants and toddlers by providing training to primary medical care providers and support staff, provide training and education materials to expectant mothers, and facilitating the referral of expectant mothers to the dental clinic for caries assessment.

2.) Community Level: To enhance preschool age prevention plans, with emphasis on providing training to staff, parents, and caregivers at existing Head Start programs.

3.) Staff Trainings: To provide training for Registered Dental Assistants (RDAs) to become certified in dental sealant placement.

Services available to all Tribal and Urban Indian Health Programs and Indian Head Start Sites

DSC 2007

We held 2 successful RDA Sealant Placement trainings to 27 students who passed the written and practical exams, and received their RDA Sealant Certificate. In addition, each participating RDA received a curing light and initial sealant supplies for their dental clinic.

DSC 2008

We have planned for the upcoming year 3 RDA Sealant Placement trainings to be held at Central Valley Indian Health in Clovis, CA; Sacramento Native American Health in Sacramento, CA and one to be held in Southern CA at a site to be determined. Dates of all three will be announced at a later date.

On site trainings through-out California will be held to inform medical and dental staff about the bacterial cause of dental caries and to facilitate their teams working together to identify dental issues of pregnant women, infants, and toddlers. To educate patients on proper dental hygiene, the bacterial causes of dental caries, and the need for early dental visits.

Training will also be offered at Head Start sites



The goal of the project is to provide technical assistance, training, and resources in a number of primary prevention initiatives. These initiatives, based upon well-established prevention guidelines, are aimed at the prevention of dental caries in children.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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